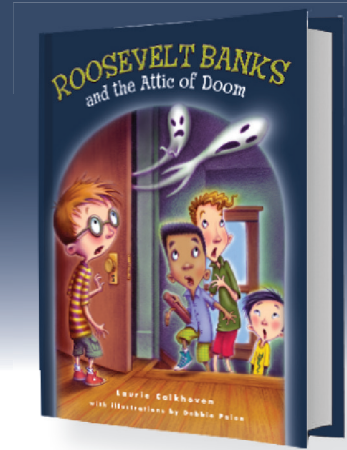


ROOSEVELT BANKS and the Attic of Doom

by Laurie Calkhoven



Discussion Guide

1. Roosevelt makes a list of fun things he has planned for THE SUMMER OF DAD. If you had to plan your perfect summer, what would be on your list?
2. Roosevelt is afraid of the attic because he thinks ghosts live in it, even though his parents assure him there is no such thing as ghosts. Have you ever been afraid of something? How did you get over your fear?
3. Several characters in the book are named after important people—Roosevelt, his siblings, and the dog after presidents and rabbits after the first two men who walked on the moon. If you wanted to name a pet after someone important, who would you name it after, and why?
4. In what ways are Roosevelt, Tommy, Josh, and Eddie good friends to each other? What qualities make someone a good friend?
5. How does Roosevelt feel when he finds out he's going to have a new baby sister? What is he afraid will happen, and do you think his fears are justified?
6. What kinds of changes does a new baby bring in the life of an older sibling? Which of those changes are negative, and which are positive? Do the positive changes outweigh the negative ones?
7. Roosevelt faces his fear and sleeps in the backyard in a tent (even though his dog joins him for most of the night). Have you ever faced one of your fears? What was it, and how did it feel to face it?
8. Roosevelt and his friends give Dante and Malik a taste of their own medicine by scaring them with recorded sound effects. Do you think this was a good way to handle the twins' bullying?
9. Roosevelt's summer doesn't turn out the way he planned it, but the silver lining was that he still got to do fun things with his friends and spend quality time with his dad. Have you ever had something turn out differently than you expected it to? What was the silver lining?



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About Laurie Calkhoven

Laurie Calkhoven grew up in a neighborhood much like Roosevelt's and she had her own attic bedroom complete with a built-in desk and a chair that spun around on wheels. After writing ROOSEVELT BANKS, GOOD-KID-IN-TRAINING she missed her main character and his band of bike-dudes-in-training, so she dreamed up this new adventure for them. Laurie lives and works in New York City and is the author of many books for young readers.

Synopsis of the Book

With a new sister on the way, Roosevelt Banks has to give up his bedroom and move into the attic, which must be haunted because of the all the squeaks and groans coming from the spooky place at the top of the stairs. After his plan to move into a fort in the woods fails, and a ghost-busting exercise goes terribly wrong, Roosevelt—with the help of Tommy, Josh, and Eddie Spaghetti—has to find the courage to defeat the biggest, spookiest ghouls ever and turn the Attic of Doom into a Room with a View.

Praise for *Roosevelt Banks: Good-Kid-in-Training*

"Funny, charming, heart-warming. This book had me laughing out loud! Roosevelt Banks shines."

—Darleen Bailey Beard, award-winning author of
Annie Glover is NOT a Tree Lover and *The Flimflam Man*

"Hilarious and big-hearted. Roosevelt Banks rides his smashed-up bike right into our hearts."

—Claudia Mills, author of *Nixie Ness*, *Cooking Star*

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